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CONTENTS

- 1 Background
- 2 Vision
- 13 Goals & Strategies
- 17 Architecture
- 24 Budget Initiatives
- 31 Accomplishments
- 36 Glossary

Background and Purpose

North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) 54.59 gives the Information Technology Department (ITD) responsibility for preparing the Statewide Information Technology Plan based on the plans submitted by state agencies. This is the second Statewide Information Technology Plan developed by ITD. It continues to build on the vision threads outlined in the first plan. This plan describes the vision for information technology for the state, identifies the information technology architecture required to achieve the vision, and establishes goals and strategies for accomplishing the vision.

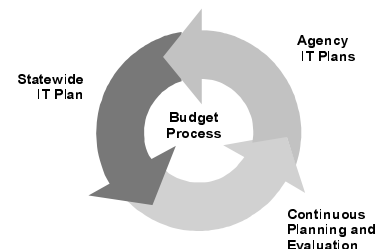
Because the planning process is a continuous one, the statewide technology plan provides a glimpse into the process *at this point in time*. The plan is simply that, a plan. The actual implementation, and even the strategies, may change depending on funding, technology changes, or changing requirements.

State Technology Plan Purpose

- ☐ Communicate a shared vision for information technology so that state government and its stakeholders can achieve common goals and objectives through coordinated efforts.
- ☐ Outline strategic initiatives identified by the Chief Information Officer to achieve the vision. These initiatives correspond to funding initiatives outlined in the executive budget recommendation.
- ☐ Provide decision-makers with criteria for evaluating technology projects and funding initiatives. Projects and technology initiatives which move North Dakota closer to the vision should receive top priority.
- ☐ Establish goals and strategies which will serve as a basis for more detailed planning efforts.

North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) 54-59 requires that each state agency submit a technology plan to ITD prior to January 15th of each even numbered year. Information from the individual agency plans, along with research and trend information, is used in the State Technology Plan.

State agency plans and projects are summarized in a companion document entitled North Dakota Statewide Information Technology 2000 Agency Plan Summaries. The summaries provide specific agency technology goals and objectives information, and outline the budget requirements for implementing the plans.



Senate Bill 2043, passed by the 1999 Legislature, outlined additional requirements for reporting budget information related to technology plans. ITD rewrote the guidelines for reporting technology plans and implemented an online system for collecting the planning information during 1999. The detail budget information for the agency technology plan is entered one time, directly into the budget system, providing a clear link between the agency technology plan and the budget request.

During the 2001 Legislative session, an evaluation of the planning process will be conducted to identify additional improvement areas.

Background